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Village panchayats

Metalling of the Kumadavalli village road.

* 1185 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector, West Godavari, turned down the proposal of Kumadavalli Village Panchayat, West Godavari, to have their village road metalled and if so, why;

(b) whether it is a fact he expressed the opinion that there could not be a metalled road on black cotton soil; and

(c) if so, whether his view was supported by any competent engineering authority?

A.—(a) No. The Collector simply sent a report to the Registrar-General of Panchayats on the subject as requested by the latter.

(b) No such opinion is expressed in that report.

(c) The question does not arise.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"With reference to clause (a) may I know, Sir, what the report of the Collector is?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The Registrar-General consulted the Collector and the Collector said it is not possible to metal the road at present."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know, Sir, on what grounds it was not considered feasible?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"I want notice."

Medical

Proposed abolition of the Medical school at Guntur.

* 1186 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal on the part of the Government to abolish the Medical school at Guntur and if so, why and when; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government have stopped the construction of the hostel of that school?

A.—(a) There has been no Medical school at Guntur.

(b) Yes.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have abandoned the idea of starting a medical school at Guntur in the next school year?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"They have not officially abandoned the idea."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know whether the school building has not been constructed at a great cost."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Yes."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know what it cost Government?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"Notice."

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Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know if it is a fact that the school has been fully equipped at a cost of Rs. 80,000 ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is furnishing information."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" If the school is fully equipped, may I know the reason why the school has not been opened ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The buildings are ready ; the staff is not there and the students are not there."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Is it possible to have students before the school is opened ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No. That is what I say ; it is all ready except starting the school."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know when the school will be started ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is a question which I am not able to answer at present."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" May I know, Sir, if the Government expect the students or teachers first ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Teachers first and students next."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" How long will it take for the teachers to be appointed ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If the school is going to be opened, they will be appointed. The question is under consideration."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" How long will it take for Government to consider this question ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" We have appointed a committee to go into the whole question and it will depend upon the recommendation of the committee."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" How much money have Government sanctioned for this purpose ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I do not think any appreciable sum except travelling allowance for probably 2 or 3."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" May I know if the advisability or otherwise of opening the school was not considered before constructing the building at Guntur ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" They ought to have ; they would have."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" Then what is the consideration now that stands in the way of Government opening the school ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The question now under consideration is whether medical education requires overhauling and if changes in study are necessary and whether the L.M.P. course ought to continue and if so whether there should be any change in curriculum. All these things are under consideration."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" Is it not a fact that the medical school was transferred from another Andhra area in view of opening this school in Guntur ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Vizagapatam school was closed and the students were sent to Rayapuram. The medical school at Guntur would have been an accomplished fact but for the question of the course of studies."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" What is the reasonable time by which the committee's report is expected by Government ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In the normal course 4 or 5 months."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—" Have the Government fixed any period for the submission of the report by the committee ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Government have told them that they must do it expeditiously."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Am I to understand that the Government are not going to open the school in 1929 ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The school is not going to be opened in 1929."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Am I to understand that the building will have to remain unused ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Unfortunately it has to remain unused."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if the curriculum could not be changed if the Government think that there should be a change ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The question under consideration is whether L.M.P. course is necessary and whether the whole thing should not be converted into a university course."

Diwan Bahadur P. C. ETHIRAJULU NAYUDU :—" Will the matter come before the Council ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is an important matter and it will have to."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether opinions are being got from responsible people in the country with regard to the proposal to abolish the L.M.P. course ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" There is a very strong body of opinion, medical opinion and the opinion of some of the members of this Council also, that L.M.P. course should be abolished. Government hesitated very much and they have formed this committee to get advice."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Apart from medical opinion I wish to know whether Government have invited opinion from prominent men in the country ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the Council is being taken far from a medical school."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" If the school is opened, would it not be possible to raise it to a college subsequently ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member probably suggests that every school has to become a college."

Public Health

Segregation of lepers in the Leper Hospital at Tirumani.

* 1187 Q.—Mr. P BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the methods adopted to segregate leper patients in the Leper Hospital at Tirumani ;

(*b*) how many beds there are in the hospital and what is the number of patients admitted into the hospital from the date of inception of the hospital up to date yearwar ;

(*c*) whether the Government have ascertained the methods adopted in other countries (foreign) to avoid the spread of this disease and if so, what they are ; whether the admissions are made on voluntary basis or by compulsion by the officers of the State ; and

(*d*) if so, whether the Government will consider the adoption of the methods followed in other countries to prevent the spread of the disease ?

A.—(*a*) In accordance with the agreement entered into with the Mission authorities lepers are admitted into the Lady Willingdon Leper Settlement at Tirumani so far as accommodation is available. By their admission into the settlement the lepers are segregated from the outside public. Residence in the settlement is entirely voluntary.

(*b*) The hospital in the settlement has 22 beds. The number of in-patients admitted from the date of its inception up to date is as follows :—

Year.	Number of patients admitted.
From 20th July 1925 to 31st December 1925.	290
1926	905
1927	676
From 1st January 1928 up to 7th November 1928	440

(*c*) The measures vary from compulsory registration of all cases combined with compulsory segregation of all lepers to a complete absence of interference with the liberty of the lepers.

(*d*) The question has already been very carefully considered by the Government of India and by all the experts on leprosy. It is generally agreed that measures for compulsory segregation would do harm rather than good in India and the most hopeful policy is to encourage patients to come for treatment in the early stages of the disease. In theory compulsory segregation is the ideal method of controlling leprosy, but as there are probably more than two lakhs of lepers in India this is quite impracticable. Even if there were sufficient accommodation in leper hospitals it would be quite impossible to detect and segregate all persons who are suffering from the disease.